



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

October 17, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Intermediate and Local School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D. *V. Keesler*
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

SUBJECT: Section 22i Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant Eligibility and
Participation Requirements

The Michigan Legislature has provided a second year of Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant (TRIG) funding to assist public school districts, public school academies (districts), and intermediate school districts (ISDs) in developing or improving technology infrastructure in preparation for the planned implementation of online growth assessments in 2014-2015.

The Invitation to Participate (ITP) will be released by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) in November with a closing date of December 15, 2013. This memo is intended to provide districts and ISDs with additional time to review the eligibility and participation requirements and prepare to respond accordingly.

In August 2013, the State Board of Education adopted Section 22i grant criteria that established the following grant activities:

- Develop and implement collaborative purchasing arrangements for statewide network services and personal learning and assessment devices.
- Establish sustainable, cost-effective collaborations for sharing technology and data-related services to assist schools and districts to become "test ready."
- Build the capacity of educators at districts and ISDs to effectively plan and implement online assessments and "Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace" learning.
- Competitively award a whole-school technology pilot with a focus on economic and demographic diversity. (This criterion was addressed in a separate Request for Proposal released on August 15, 2013.)

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The State Board also approved the following eligibility requirements:

- All districts and ISDs are eligible.
- Individual districts and ISDs must complete the Michigan Technology Readiness Assessment tool (MTRAx) by December 15, 2013.
- Individual districts and ISDs must agree to complete an updated technology readiness planning process designated by the department by June 30, 2014.

From the funds appropriated in Section 22i, the MDE intends to award approximately \$10/pupil, based on the Fall 2014 Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) count, to each district and ISD that completes MTRAx and agrees to the grant's participation requirements in MEGS+ by December 15, 2013.

- Attachment 1 includes the grant's preliminary participation requirements for 2013-2014 (subject to minor changes).
- For more information on how to complete the MTRAx assessment by December 15, 2013, please visit 22iTRIG.org and/or contact your ISD point of contact provided in Attachment 2.

For more information on the other eligibility or participation requirements, please contact Bruce Umpstead (umpsteadb@michigan.gov) or Amanda Stoel (stoela@michigan.gov) or call 517.373.8480.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

Attachment 1: Preliminary 2013-14 Grant Participation Requirements

1. *The district agrees to participate in one statewide or regional consortium identified through the application process and report spending estimates under the new participation requirements. The district agrees to limit participation funds spending toward technology readiness efforts such as:*
 - *Online/Digital Assessment, including universal diagnostic screening tools*
 - *In-building wireless connectivity*
 - *Network services (i.e. additional bandwidth, content filtering)*
 - *Computer/device purchasing*
 - *Technology and data collaborations that support online assessment readiness*
2. *The district agrees to be represented in TRIG sponsored statewide 470 bids for E-rate funding and consider using the awarded vendors, although districts will not be bound to purchase from the bid. The district agrees to apply for all of its eligible E-rate Priority 1 service(s) where such participation is economically advantageous to the district.*
3. *In instances where the ISD or district manages its own wide area networks (WANs), the ISD/district will, if requested, allow for the connection of the ISDs/District WAN to the SEN (State Education Network). The ISD/District will permit installation of electronics and/or software, provided by this grant, required for implementing and performance monitoring of the SEN. This is with the understanding that the electronics and/or software provided by this grant will not negatively interfere with or control the ISD/District's servers, routers, switches, or other WAN equipment determined necessary and installed by June 30, 2014.*
4. *The district agrees to satisfactorily participate in one or more of the State of Michigan authorized online pilot and/or field test opportunities. To satisfy this requirement, the total number of online pilot and/or field tests administered in the district during the 2013-14 school year must equate to at least 20% of the district's full-time equivalency (FTE) pupil count from the Fall 2013 MSDS Collection. Please see participation examples below.*

This requirement includes necessary activities related to online testing such as installing software, attending training, and performing online test preparation procedures. It is understood that the software will not negatively interfere with the district's normal operations. The grant will not require the installation of software under these participation requirements after June 30, 2014.

Example #1: If a charter school with 150 student FTEs administers the science and social studies interim pilot assessments to 15 students in the fourth grade, that equates to 30 tests administered and therefore satisfies this participation requirement.

Attachment 1 (Cont.)

Example #2: If a K-12 school district with 1,700 student FTEs administers the ELA and Math interim pilot assessments to 180 students in grades K through 2, that equates to 360 tests administered and therefore satisfies this participation requirement.

Example #3: If a K-12 school district with 5,000 student FTEs administers the US History, World History, Biology, and Chemistry interim assessments to 250 students (each), that equates to 1,000 tests administered and therefore satisfies this participation requirement.

5. *The ISD/district agrees to complete MTRAx data collection by December 15, 2013, complete an updated technology readiness planning process designated by the department by June 30, 2014, and install any hardware and/or software provided by this grant that is necessary to achieve "low effort" in monitoring and reporting technology readiness at the ISD, district, and/or school building level with the understanding that electronics and/or software provided by the grant will not negatively interfere with nor control ISD/district's servers, routers, switches, or WAN equipment determined necessary. The grant will not require the installation of hardware or software under these participation requirements after June 30, 2014.*
6. *The district agrees to participate in any necessary surveys sent out by the TRIG operations office to inform the work of the various activities (maximum of three per fiscal year, October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014).*
7. *The district understands that its ISD must also agree to these requirements for the district to receive participation funds.*

Attachment 2: ISD MTRAx Points of Contact

Allegan Area Educational Service
Agency
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